





PENNSYLVANIA RARE BIRD REPORT FORM

This form is presented as a convenience and guide. It can be used if desired, but is not necessary for submitting a report. Species requiring documentation are those on the Review List or not on the Official List of Birds of Pennsylvania. Send documentation to:

Nick Pulcinella, Secretary
Pennsylvania Ornithological Records Committee

613 Howard Ave.
West Chester, PA 19380

nickpulcinella@comcast.net

286-03-2004

SPECIES (common and scientific name) Whimbrel (*Numenius phaeopus*)
Subspecies (if known) American

NUMBER OF INDIVIDUALS 1 SEX(ES) u/N

AGE(S) AND PLUMAGE(S) (e.g. immature; adult in breeding plumage; year for gulls; basic or alternate if you prefer those terms; state of molt if applicable): Adult

DATE OF OBSERVATION 9/29/04 TIME 2:00 P.M.

LOCATION (city, borough, township) South Avis, Pine Creek Township, Clinton Co.

EXACT SITE (e.g. name of park, lake, road) On River Rd. about 150 yds. east of intersection of
Tiadaghton Ave.

OBSERVER REPORTING:

Name Wayne N. Laubscher
Address 749 E. CROAK Hollow Road
City Lock Haven State PA ZIP 17745-8153
e-mail (optional) wlaubsch@decub.kcnw.net phone (optional) 570-748-7571

OTHER OBSERVERS (only those who saw and identified the bird with you):
David Rockey, Cecil Hazlett, Joseph Lipar, David Ferry

HABITAT (e.g. mowed field, woodland edge, any other details) Flooded, muddy field

DISTANCE TO BIRD Approx 25-30 yards

VIEWING CONDITIONS (sky, weather, position of sun relative to you) Partly sunny, no precipitation.
Sun was high to my left.

OPTICAL EQUIPMENT USED Pentax 8x42 binoculars, Pentax 80ED Spotting Scope

DESCRIPTION (Include as much detail as you observed - size relative to other species present; "jizz" = e.g. posture, body shape, and proportions; colors and patterns of plumage; bill, eye, and leg characteristics; other features relevant to this individual): Large shorebird, larger than other shorebirds present including Dunlin, plovers, Killdeer, and sandpipers (peeps). It had a long, down-curved bill, heavy stripes on head, and long bluish-gray legs. It had an overall grayish color with some brown mixed in but no remarkable patterns or contrasting colors. Once, when acting disturbed, it ran a short distance and flapped its wings - no distinctive wing pattern seen. The underwings appeared to be mostly grayish and possibly with some barring. No contrasting rump.

(Please use an additional page if necessary.)

BEHAVIOR (be as detailed as possible about what the bird was doing) The bird was found resting then feeding at a flooded area in a muddy field. It would alternately move around the wet area then rest. Once, when acting disturbed, it ran for a short distance flapping its wings and vocalizing.

VOCALIZATIONS
Series of "wee-wee-wee-wee"

SUPPORTING EVIDENCE IF ANY:

Photograph Video recording _____ Audio recording _____ Drawing _____

Photographer/recorder/illustrator:

Name Wayne Laubscher
Address 749 E. Croak Hollow Road
City Lock Haven State PA. ZIP 17745-8153
e-mail (optional) wlaubsch@xubkent.edu phone (optional) 570-748-7511

Please include a copy of the photograph or recording with your report, and accompany it with a complete written documentation if the identification is obvious to you. If you made a drawing, please include it.

IF THIS IS A DEAD BIRD:

General condition _____
If collected (by permit), location and number of specimen if known _____

SEPARATION FROM SIMILAR SPECIES (how you eliminated others)

Not Long-billed Curlew - Bill shorter; size smaller; no cinnamon underwings; leg color wrong
Not Willet - Wrong color; bill longer, thinner; no wing pattern; wrong voice
Not Godwit - Bill downcurved; plumage wrong; leg color wrong, voice wrong
Not Dowitcher - larger; not as stocky; bill downcurved; voice wrong

DISCUSSION - Anything else relevant to the observation that will aid the committee in evaluating it

(Please use an additional page if necessary)

PREVIOUS EXPERIENCE WITH THIS AND/OR SIMILAR SPECIES

None, except I have seen Willets previously.

ARE YOU POSITIVE OF YOUR IDENTIFICATION? (why or why not)

Yes. Quite simply because I was afforded very good looks at the bird for enough time, the field marks were quite evident and allowed for a straight forward I.D. I also heard vocalization.

REFERENCES CONSULTED:

During observation The Sibley Guide to Birds, National Geographic Bird
After observation Kaufman's Guide to Birds of NA Guide

DATE OF THIS REPORT:

12/3/04

SIGNATURE OF OBSERVER

Wayne M. Laubscher

Pennsylvania Ornithological Records Committee

Voting Tabulation – Round One

Species: Whimbrel (Numenius phaeopus)

Date of Sighting: 9 September 2004 to 9 September 2004

Location: SOUTH AVIS

County : CLINTON

Observer(s): Wayne Laubscher et al.

Date of Submission: 2004

Submitted by: Wayne Laubscher

Written Description: Yes

Photo: Yes

Specimen: No

Recording: Video

Member	Class I	Class II	Class III	Class IV-A	Class IV-B	Class IV-C	Class V	Abstain
R. Wiltraut	X							
D. Heathcote								
P. Guris	X							
J. Stanlev	X							
E. Witmer	X							
R. Leberman A. Gault	X							
M. Sharp	X							
TOTALS	6							
DECISION	X							

Comments: G/O

Signature (Secretary) 

Date: 8/3/06